

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A media comprising:
  - a) an image-receiving layer having a first machine-readable indicia thereon; and
  - b) ~~a protective overlayer provided over~~ selectively applied on said image-receiving layer, ~~said protective overlayer to form~~ having a second machine-readable indicia of varying thicknesses integrally formed thereon ~~during application of said protective overlayer over said image-receiving layer~~, said second machine-readable indicia being identical to and superimposed over said first machine-readable indicia.
2. (currently amended) A media comprising:
  - a) an image-receiving layer having a first machine-readable indicia thereon using a thermal head; and
  - b) ~~a protective overlayer provided over~~ selectively applied on said image-receiving layer, ~~said protective overlayer to form~~ having a second machine-readable indicia of varying thicknesses integrally formed thereon ~~during application of said protective overlayer over said image-receiving layer~~ using a thermal head, said second machine-readable indicia being identical to and superimposed over said first machine-readable indicia.
3. (original) The media of claim 2 wherein said indicia being transparent so as to allow viewing of an image provided on said image-receiving layer.
4. (original) The media of claim 2 wherein said protective overlayer comprises an IR absorbing dye.
5. (original) The media of claim 2 further comprising an adhesive layer for securing to an item.
6. (currently amended) A media comprising:

a) a 1<sup>st</sup> machine-readable indicia in an image layer on said media;  
and

b) a protective overlayer selectively applied on said image layer to form a 2<sup>nd</sup> machine-readable indicia of varying thicknesses ~~in a protective overlayer~~ that is identical in content to, and in register with said 1<sup>st</sup> machine-readable indicia in said image layer, said machine-readable indicia being integrally formed during application of said protective overlayer over said image layer.

7. (currently amended) A label comprising:

a) an image-receiving layer having a visual image formed thereon using a thermal head; and

b) ~~a protective overlayer provided over~~ a protective overlayer selectively applied on said image-receiving layer, ~~said protective overlayer to form a having~~ machine-readable indicia of varying thicknesses ~~integrally formed thereon during application of said protective overlayer over said image-receiving layer,~~ said machine-readable indicia being substantially transparent but is capable of being machine-readable.

8. Cancelled

9. (previously presented) A media according to claim 7 wherein said machine-readable code comprises a bar code.

10. Cancelled

11. (previously presented) A media according to claim 2 wherein said machine-readable code comprises a bar code.

12. Cancelled

13. Cancelled